(f) whether his Ministry have taken any steps to re-examine these reports; and

(g) if so, by when?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI M.S. GURUPADASWAMY): (a) to (c) The groups, teams and committees were set up by this Ministry to go into the specific issues and were examined by the Govt.

(d) Some anomalies and discrepancies have been found in the reports of some committees and teams.

(e) to (g) These are being re-examined. With regard to list of price-controlled drugs, a permanent body in the shape of Standing Committee has been constituted, which goes into such anomalies and discrepancies.

Sales Turnover of Bulk Vitamins

2042. DR. RATNAKAR PANDEY: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 731 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 14th May, 1990 and state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the annual sales turnover of each of the bulk vitamins is more than rupees fifty lakhs;

(b) whether it is also a fact that none of the bulk vitamins is being produced by the five producers;

(c) whether it is also a fact that none of the bulk vitamins fulfil any of the five exclusion criteria laid down by Kelkar Committee;

(d) if so, how vitamin B1, B2 and B12 E, P, D3, Folic Acid, Nicotinic Acid and Niscinamide have been price decontrolled; and

(e) what is the price indicated for price decontrolled vitamin bulk in the break-up submitted to his Ministry by producers as required under DPCO, 1987?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI M.S. GURUPADASWAMY): (a) Yes, Sir, except for Vitamin E and Nicotinic Acid.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) and (d) The inclusion/exclusion of drugs in the Scheduled Categories under Drugs (Prices Control) Order, 1987 is based on the recommendation contained in the Main as well as Supplementary Report of the Kelkar Committee which was accepted by the then Government.

(e) The information to the extent available would be collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Theft of electricity

2043. SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) what is the estimated percentage of electricity loss due to theft of electricity; and

(b) what steps Government propose to take to prevent such losses?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI M.S. GURUPADASWAMY): (a) and (b) The transmission and distribution losses (including commercial losses such as pilferage etc.) in India are about 22%.

Comprehensive guidelines have been issued to the Power Utilities for reducing the losses. These include *inter alia*, conducting energy audit for identifying the system elements responsible for excessive losses, installing capacitors to improve the voltage profile, preparation of system improvement schemes for strengthening and improvement of their transmission and distribution systems, installing tamper proof meter boxes to check theft of energy and setting up vigilance squads to detects cases of theft of energy. The theft of energy has been made a cognizable offence under the provisions of Section 29 of Indian Electricity Act, 1910. An Incentive Scheme was introduced by the Government of India with effect from the year 1987 for bringing about reduction in the Transmission and Distribution losses.

Based on the guidelines the Power Utilities have set up vigilance squads and